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COMPLIANCE WITH ARMS LIMITATION AND DISARMAMENT OBLIGATIONS

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: revised draft resolution

Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 50/60 of 12 December 1995 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law,

Convinced that observance of the Charter of the United Nations, relevant treaties and other sources of international law is essential for the strengthening of international security,

Mindful, in particular, of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other agreed obligations on arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation by States Parties if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

Stressing that any violation of such agreements and other agreed obligations by States Parties not only adversely affects the security of States Parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other agreed obligations,

Stressing also that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other agreed obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional stability and to further arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation efforts, and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the international legal system,

Recognizing, in this context, that full compliance by States Parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, inter alia, facilitate the conclusion of additional arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements, and thereby contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and security,

Believing that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements by States Parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role of the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Welcoming the contribution to international peace and regional security that full compliance by States Parties with verification provisions of arms control, non-proliferation, and disarmament agreements provides,

Also welcoming the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance and verification of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements, and other agreed obligations,

1. Urges all States Parties to arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of all provisions of such agreements;

2. Calls upon all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance by States Parties with any provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for progress in the field of disarmament;

3. Also calls upon all Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all States

Parties of the provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. Welcomes the role that the United Nations has played and continues to play in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide assistance that may be necessary in restoring and protecting the integrity of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements;

6. Encourages efforts by all States Parties to develop additional cooperative measures, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

7. Notes the contribution that verification experiments and research can make and already have made in confirming and improving verification procedures for arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements under study or negotiation, thereby providing an opportunity, from the time that such agreements enter into force, for enhancing confidence in the effectiveness of verification procedures as a basis for determining compliance;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session an item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements".